

Message Text

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FOL LONDON 5012 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO KUWAIT JIDDA CAIRO
BAGHDAD ALGIERS TUNIS MANAMA MUSCAT MAR 30, 1978 REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

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DEPT PASS DOT, USCG, AND MARAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO, XF

SUBJECT: IMCO: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRAINING AN
CERTIFICATION OF SEAFARERS (TCS), ARAB MINIS-
TERS OF TRANSPORT MEETING

1. IMCO SEC GEN SRIVASTAVA RECENTLY ATTENDED ARAB
MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT MEETING ON INVITATION SINCE
SEVERAL OF THE SUBJECTS MINISTERS WERE TAKING UP RE-
LATED TO IMCO'S WORK WITH ARAB MARITIME TRANSPORT
ACADEMY IN ALEXANDRIA. HOWEVER, DURING MEETING, MIN-
ISTER OF TRANSPORT OF IRAQ, ACCORDING TO SEC GEN, BROUGHT
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UP MATTER OF JUNE TCS CONFERENCE AND EXPRESSED VIEW
THAT DEVELOPING ARAB AND LDC MERCHANT MARINE FLEETS,
PARTICULARLY TANKERS, COULD NOT AFFORD THE HIGH STANDARDS
THAT WERE LIKELY TO BE IMPOSED BY THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
IN THE CONFERENCE. HE CALLED FOR MEETINGS AMONG THE
ARAB STATES PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE TO DEVELOP A COMMON
POSITION. SRIVASTAVA REPORTS THAT HE FELT OBLIGED TO

INTERVENE IN THE DISCUSSION AND POINTED OUT THAT DRAFT CONVENTION TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CONFERENCE HAD BEEN EVOLVED AS A COMPROMISE AND THAT THE ISSUE WAS NOT SIMPLY ONE OF HIGH STANDARDS.

2. SRIVASTAVA IS CONCERNED THAT TCS CONFERENCE MIGHT TAKE ON A DC - LDC DIVISION. HE DOES NOT THINK IRAQI TRANSPORT MINISTER WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THE MATTER UP IF HE HAD NOT HAD A BRIEFING PAPER FROM HIS TECHNICAL ADVISERS. SRIVASTAVA BELIEVES COMPOSITION OF THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE MUCH DIFFERENT FROM FEBRUARY TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (TSPP) CONFERENCE. HE EXPECTS MANY MORE AND MORE ACTIVE LDC DELEGATIONS. HE BELIEVES THAT THE DEVELOPED MARITIME STATE DELEGATIONS MUST WORK TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT THEIR INTENTION IS TO JACK UP STANDARDS TO A LEVEL TOO HIGH FOR LDCS. HE HOPES THAT PRIOR TO AND DURING THE CONFERENCE THE MAJOR MARITIME STATES LIKE THE U.S. WILL ATTEMPT TO ASSOCIATE LDCS IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF THE ISSUES.

3. ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO PROTECT SECGEN SRIVASTAVA AS SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON ARAB TRANSPORT MINISTERS MEETING. EMBASSY NOTES THAT IRAQ DELEGATIONS TO NOVEMBER 1977 IMCO ASSEMBLY AND TO FEBRUARY TSPP CONFERENCE INCLUDED S.M. SALIH, UNDER-SEC MIN. OF TRANSPORT T.N. AL-OMARI, DIRGEN, IRAQI OIL TANKER CO.; CAPT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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I.A.M. AMSO, DIR. MARINE NAVIGATION DEPT., ORGANIZATION OF IRAQI PORTS; S. ANWAR, CHIEF ENG., ENTERPRISE FOR MARITIME TRANSPORT; I. AL-YITAYIM, DIR. FOREIGN RELATIONS, MOT; J.H. AL-SHANOON, ENG. ORGANIZATION OF IRAQI PORTS; AND K.A. ATTAR, LEGAL ADVISER, ORGANIZATION FOR WATER TRANSPORT. BREWSTER UNQUOTE COOPER

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